

## Message Text

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S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 5499

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, PO

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE FORCES FOR NATO

REF: A. STATE 065388

B. STATE 159115

C. USNATO 4362

D. DPC/D(74)5, PORTUGAL

BEGIN SUMMARY: PORTUGUESE REPLY TO DPQ(74), APPARENTLY DRAFTED DURING CAETANO-SPINOLA TRANSITION PERIOD, REITERATES PRIORITY FOR MILITARY NEEDS OF OVERSEAS TERRITORIES, BUT STATES THAT PORTUGAL EXPECTS A QUOTE FAVORABLE EVOLUTION END QUOTE DURING THE NEXT FEW YEARS. REPLY IS VAGUE AND IMPRECISE ABOUT SPECIFIC PLANS TO MEET FORCE GOALS AND STATES A NEED FOR EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE FOR MOST IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENTS

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PORTUGAL MEETS 1974 COMMITMENT EXCEPT FOR CONTINUING DETORIORATION OF MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT. PLANS TO REORGANIZE AND MODERNIZE ARMY CONTRIBUTION APPEAR FIRMER THAN LAST YEAR, BUT VERY FEW NATO  
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FORCE IMPROVEMENTS ARE IN AN ACTIVE STATUS. MISSION PROPOSES TO PROBE SPECIFIC PORTUGUESE PLANS, ESPECIALLY INVOLVING BASIC ISSUES, AND SUPPORT LIKELY INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND/OR ALLIED INITIATIVES FOR GREATER PORTUGUEESE CONTRIBUTION TO NATO, DURING

1974 MULTILATERAL REVIEW. END SUMMARY.

1. FORCES.

A. ARMY. PORTUGAL MEETS 1974 COMMITMENT. 1975 COMMITMENT, IDENTICAL TO 1974, CONSISTS OF ONE CATC-4 INFANTRY DIVISION, PLUS ONE ANTI-AIRCRAFT AND THREE FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALIONS, ONE FIELD ARTILLERY AND TWO ENGINEER COMPANIES, AND NINE TRANSPORTATION, QUARTERMASTER, ORDNANCE AND MEDICAL UNITS (ALL CAT C4). FORCE STRUCTURE REMAINS CONSTANT THROUGH 1978, AT WHICH TIME PORTUGAL INTENDS TO REORGANIZE ITS NATO FORCE INTO ONE SINGLE CAT C-3 INFANTRY BRIGADE AS A REGIONAL RESERVE FORCE FOR CINCSOUTH, PARTIALLY MEETING NATO FORCE GOAL 1L05.

(1) EQUIPMENT AND LOGISTICS. ALTHOUGH NOT DETAILED, DPQ(74) REPLY STATES PORTUGUESE INTENT TO UPDATE AND REPLACE ANTI-TANK WEAPONS (NATO FORCE GOAL 1L01), IMPROVE MODERN LOW-LEVEL AIR DEFENSE (1L02), AND PROCURE ARMORED VEHICLES (1L04) AND NEC MATERIAL (1L03) IN CONNECTION WITH FORMATION OF NEW INFANTRY BRIGADE. ARMY HAS NOT BEGUN THIS MODERNIZATION PROGRAM. NO OPERATIONAL STOCKS EXIST. DPQ(74) CONTAINS NO AMMUNITION TABLES, AND ACKNOWLEDGES VERY LOW READINESS AND MATERIAL CONDITION OF EARMARKED PORTUGUESE ARMY UNITS.

(2) PERSONNEL. TOTAL ACTIVE ARMY STRENGTH WAS 227,300 AT END-1973, AND WILL RISE TO 233,200 AT END-1975, OF WHICH ONLY 9000 ARE IN NATO UNITS. SEVEN PERCENT OF ACTIVE PERSONNEL ARE REGULARS. PORTUGUESE ARMY HAS 342,600 RESERVISTS, CAN RECALL 53,000 WITHIN 15 DAYS OF MOBILIZATION, AND GIVES RE-FRESHER TRAINING TO ABOUT 3500 PER YEAR. IN ADDITION, SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION TABLES (SDTS) LIST 20,000 PERSONNEL ON ACTIVE DUTY AS SECURITY FORCES.

B. NAVY. NAVY MEETS 1974 COMMITMENT FOR EARMARKED FORCES. TWO SUBMARINES IN SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT CATEGORY (AT THE DISPOSAL OF SACLANT WITHIN PORTUGUESE NATIONAL AREAS) FALL SHORT OF DPQ(73) READINESS COMMITMENT, DUE TO CONTINUING MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS. 1975 COMMITMENT CONSISTS OF FOUR DESTROYER ESCORTS (TWO CAT A1, SECRET

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ONE B4, ONE C5), AND MPA(REPORTED IN AIRFORCE SECTION). SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT CATEGORY FORCES (MENTIONED ABOVE) ARE TWO A1 DESTROYER ESCORTS AND TWO SUBMARINES (ONE A1, ONE C5). FORCES STRICTLY UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND ARE TWO COASTAL ESCORTS(ONE A4, ONE C5), AND NINE COASTAL MINESWEEPERS (TWO A1, TWO B4, FIVE C5). FORCE STRUCTURE THROUGH 1979 REMAINS SAME EXCEPT FOR ELIMINATION OF COASTAL ESCORTS (WITHOUT REPLACEMENT) AND INCREASED SUBMARINE READINESS STARTING IN 1977. NO OILER IS ASSIGNED TO NATO (NATO FORCE GOAL 2M06) DUE TO PORTUGUESE NEED TO USE ITS ONLY OILER FOR TRANSPORT OF CRUDE. PORTUGAL WILL NOT EARMARK SUBMARINES TO NATO (QM01) BECAUSE OF NEED FOR NATIONAL SUBMARINE TRAINING, AND MAINTENANCE AND EQUIPMENT PROBLEMS WITH THESE UNITS.

(1) EQUIPMENT AND LOGISTICS. MEMORANDUM STATES PORTUGAL IS STUDYING IMPROVEMENTS TO COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT FOR DE'S AND SUBMARINES, BUT REQUIRES EXTERNAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO START WORK (2M09). PORTUGAL WILL NOT FUND A SURFACE/SURFACE MISSILE FOR SHIPS (2M10). LOGISTICS PICTURE IS SOMEWHAT IMPROVED: PLANS EXIST TO BUY 15 MK-44 TORPEDOES (2M04) AND A SMALL AMOUNT OF MODERN COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT (2M07 AND 09). MOST AMMUNITION STOCKS AND POL ARE AT 90-DAY LEVEL.

(2) PERSONNEL. THERE WERE 19,423 ACTIVE DUTY NAVAL PERSONNEL AT END-1973, RISING TO 20,500 AT END-75. 56 PERCENT OF ACTIVE PERSONNEL ARE REGULARS. 25 PERCENT ARE ABOARD SHIPS. PORTUGUESE NAVY HAS 15,000 RESERVISTS, 20 PERCENT RECALLABLE WITHIN 15 DAYS, BUT NONE OF WHOM RECEIVE ANNUAL TRAINING. PORTUGAL MANS CAT A SHIPS AT 100 PERCENT OF AWC, CAT B AT 90 PERCENT AND CAT C AT 45 PERCENT. REGULARS COMPRISE 65 PERCENT OF THE COMPLEMENT OF CAT A SHIPS, 55 PERCENT OF CAT B, AND 45 PERCENT OF CAT C.

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C. AIR FORCE. PORTUGAL DOES NOT MEET 1974 COMMITMENT OF SEVEN MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT BECAUSE OF DELAYS IN INTRODUCTION OF REPLACEMENT FOR AGING LOCKHEED NEPTUNES. AT END-1974, PORTUGAL WILL HAVE ONLY FIVE MPA (ONE A1, TWO B3, TWO B5), DECLINING TO THREE IN 1975. INTRODUCTION OF REPLACEMENT (NOT YET SELECTED) WILL COMMENCE WITH FOUR IN 1976, AND INCREASE TO EIGHT AT END OF FORCE PLANNING PERIOD. UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND, PORTUGAL HAS 15 F-86 IDF (TEN A1, FIVE B5), SIX DC-6 TRANSPORTS AND TWO

BOEINGS 707'S.

(1) EQUIPMENT AND LOGISTICS. MEMORANDUM STATES NEED FOR OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE FOR BOTH MPA REPLACEMENT (2A02A) AND FOR F-86 REPLACEMENT/RESTRUCTURING FOR MARITIME ROLE (2A05). PORTUGAL DESIRES AIRCRAFT THAT ARE CURRENTLY IN PRODUCTION TO FILL BOTH REQUIREMENTS, FOR EXAMPLE P3C AND F-5E OR A-7D. WEAPONS SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS TO FULFILL NATO FORCE GOALS 2A11 AND 2A12 (ASM'S FOR MPA AND FBA) COULD THEN TAKE PLACE. LOGISTICS PICTURE IS BLEAK. NO SIDEWINDER MISSILES ARE ON HAND; ONLY WEAPONS FOR IDF ARE .50 CAL, 500/950 POUND BOMBS AND 2.75 SECRET

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INCH ROCKETS.

(2) PERSONNEL. ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH INCREASES SLIGHTLY TO 22,700 AT END-1975. TWENTY PERCENT ARE REGULARS. SHORTAGES EXIST IN TECHNICAL SPECIALTIES. 7900 RESERVISTS ARE ON THE ROLLS; REPLY GIVES NO INFORMATION ON RESERVE TRAINING OR NECESSARY TIMES FOR CALL-UP. ANNUAL FLYING TIME IN 1974 IS ONLY ABOUT HALF OF 1973 LEVELS.

## 2. DEFENSE EXPENDITURES.

A. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC PORTION OF PORTUGUESE REPLY TO DPQ(74) HAS NOT YET ARRIVED.

B. MEMORANDUM STATES, AS IN PAST YEARS, THAT PRIORITY GOES TO FUNDS FOR DEFENSE OF THE PORTUGUESE OVERSEAS TERRITORIES. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF REDUCED OVERSEAS REQUIREMENT SINCE DRAFTING AND PUBLICATION OF MEMORANDUM, A PEACE BONUS MAY BE POSSIBLE IN 1975 TO UPGRADE NATO FORCES. PORTUGAL WILL UNDOUBTEDLY REQUIRE AT LEAST PARTIAL EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE TO FUND LARGE PROJECTS SUCH AS REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT.

C. MEMORANDUM AGAIN EMPHASIZES QUOTE THERE IS NO EXTERNAL AID TO PORTUGAL END QUOTE.

## 3. PROPOSED USNATO POSITION FOR MULTILATERAL EXAMINATION.

PORTUGUESE REPLY TO DPQ(74) IS VAGUE AND SKETCHY IN MANY AREAS. MISSION INTENDS TO:

A. QUESTION PORTUGAL ON PLANS TO IMPLEMENT HIGH PRIORITY 1975-80 FORCE GOALS AND BASIC ISSUES FORCE IMPROVEMENTS IN AN ATTEMPT TO ASCERTAIN AND EVALUATE THE PRECISE STATUS OF PROGRAMS TO:

(1) UPGRADE ARMY EQUIPMENT FOR ANTI-TANK, LOW-ALTITUDE AIR DEFENSE AND ARMORED VEHICLES.

(2) IMPROVE WAR RESERVE STOCK LEVELS, ESPECIALLY FOR AIR FORCE.

(3) BRING NAVAL UNITS UP TO SACLANT ELECTRONIC WARFARE  
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STANDARES.

B. SUPPORT EXPECTED INTEERNATIONAL STAFF AND/OR ALLIED CALLS  
FOR GREATER PROTUGUESE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION TO NATO.  
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